

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A polarizing plate comprising: a polarizer and a protective film laminated on one or both sides of the polarizer with an adhesive layer, wherein the polarizer comprises a monolayer film having a structure having a minute domain dispersed in a matrix formed of an optically-transparent water-soluble resin including an iodine based light absorbing material, and the adhesive layer is made of an adhesive that contains a resin curable with an active energy beam or an active material.
2. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer is formed of an oriented birefringent material.
3. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 2, wherein the birefringent material shows liquid crystalline at least in orientation processing step.
4. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 2, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer has 0.02 or more of birefringence.

5. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 2, wherein in a refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the optically-transparent water-soluble resin of the polarizer in each optical axis direction,

a refractive index difference (Δn^1) in direction of axis showing a maximum is 0.03 or more, and

a refractive index difference (Δn^2) between the Δn^1 direction and a direction of axes of two directions perpendicular to the Δn^1 direction is 50% or less of the Δn^1 .

6. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 5, wherein an absorption axis of the iodine based light absorbing material of the polarizer is oriented in the Δn^1 direction.

7. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the film used as the polarizer is manufactured by stretching.

8. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 5, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer has a length of 0.05 to 500 μm in the Δn^2 direction.

9. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein an iodine based light absorbing material of the polarizer has an absorbing band at least in a band of 400 to 700 nm wavelength range.

10. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is an active energy beam-curable solventless adhesive or a moisture-curable one-component adhesive.

11. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the protective film has a bonded surface that has been subjected to at least one treatment selected from corona treatment, plasma treatment, flame treatment, primer coating treatment, and saponification treatment.

12. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the protective film has an in-plane retardation $R_e = (n_x - n_y) \times d$ is 20 nm or less and a thickness direction retardation $R_{th} = \{(n_x + n_y) / 2 - n_z\} \times d$ is 30 nm or less,

where a direction of a transparent protective film in which an in-plane refractive index within the film surface concerned gives a maximum is defined as X-axis, a direction perpendicular to X-axis is defined as Y-axis, a thickness direction of the film is defined as Z-axis, refractive indices in axial direction are defined as n_x , n_y , and n_z , respectively, and a thickness of the film is defined as d (nm).

13. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 12, wherein the protective film comprises at least one selected from a resin composition containing a thermoplastic resin (A) having a substituted and/or non-substituted imide group in a side chain and a thermoplastic resin (B) having substituted and/or non-substituted phenyl group and nitrile group in a side chain, and

the norbornene resin.

14. (Original): The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein a transmittance to a linearly polarized light in a transmission direction is 80% or more, a haze value is 5% or less, and

a haze value to a linearly polarized light in an absorption direction is 30% or more.

15. (Original): An optical film comprising at least one of the polarizing plate according to Claim 1.

16. (Currently Amended): An image display comprising at least one ~~selected from the polarizing plate according to Claim 1 or the optical film according to Claim 15.~~

17. (New): An image display comprising at least one optical film according to Claim 15.